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EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH,

The New German Empire.

From the Independent. The instincts of men and nations are too strong to be crushed out by any treaties or political arrangements which kings and emperors may make. The treaties of 1815 were as detestable to Germany as they were to France, and they are of no more power to restrain her, when she is ready to put forth her strength, than were the green withes to bind the might of Samson. The heart's desire and prayer to God of the Germans has ever been for a United Germany, which should present a formidable front to the world, and give her her due weight in its affairs. And the half of her prayer is already granted, and it will not be long before she will receive all she asks. In the plan of 1815, for the everlasting sets. In the plan of 1815, for the evertasting settlement of the balance of power in Europe, the wise men who a ljusted the weights maintained the small States, and encouraged their federative union as a counterbalance to the power of the larger ones. These smaller powers were, as a general thing, nests of tyranny and converging. It was blee the depotent of the It was like the despotism of the plantation, in slave times, compared with that of kingdom or an empire. All Germany longed to be united into one great European power, with institutions modified by the advancing spirit of constitutional liberty. In 1848 it was hoped the time had come; but it was not yet. hour has now struck.

Perhaps it was necessary that this interval o two generations from the downfall of the old German empire in 1896 should occur before the inauguration of the new. Sixty years is but a brief time in the life of a nation, and may not be more than its education into a new life demanded. The last sixty years have certainly been full of teachings to kings and peoples, it they will but lay them to heart. In 1806 the German empire, established by Charlmagne in 800, died after an existence of more than a thousand years. The son of a Corsican lawyer smote it with the edge of the sword, and it crumbled into its first elements. The House of Austria, which had possessed that throne for about three hundred and seventy years, was obliged to fall back upon its hereditary dominions and take the style and title of Austria, instead of Germany. From 1437 to 1806 the house of Haps burg bad worn the imperial crown, which its founder, Rodolph, had achieved a century and a half before, nominally by election, virtually by descent. The only exception, we think, was hat of Charles VII, when

"The bold Bavarian, in a luckless hour, Trod the dread summits of Casarian power," and held them for a few years, till Maria

"The queen, the beauty, set the world in arms," and, prevailing against him, the unhappy prince died of a broken heart.

"His foes' derision and his subjects' blame, He stole to death from anguish and from shame." What could seem more steadfast than the imperial throne of Cermany in the days of the Empress Queen, a little century ago, and what more fixed than the power and pre-eminence of the House of Austria? And in a quarter of a century the throne had crambled into dust, and now the House of Austria, defeated, bankrupt, despised, is only waiting for the rescript of fate, sure to come, which is to doom its political extinction!

That Prussia is soon to be the mistress of all Germany is a fact which needs no gift of prophecy to predict. It is by the force of political and moral gravitation that its scattered parts will come together into one body, and not by mechanical compulsion. The north of Germany aircady acknowledges the sway of the King of Prussia, and the south will not remain long behind. The growth of Prussia, though stamed by crimes, has been mainly by reason of moral and intellectual power, and it is by these forces that she will retain and augment her present strength. At the time of the death of William, the first King, the savage favorite of Carlyle, the dominions of Prussia contained about two thousand square miles, and less than two millions and a half inhabitants. His son, Frederick the Great, by his military genius and unscrupulous policy, added fifteen hundred square miles to the domains and more than doubled

the number of the subjects.

Now the number of square miles under the Prussian sceptre amounts to more than six thousand, and that of the population to twenty-three millions and a half. Such a nucleus as this cam ot help attracting to itself the political particles within its sphere, with affinities which require mechanical compulsion to keep them from flying to their natural centre. The conduct of Prussia has not been blameless on the highest moral principles, but her success cannot be unsatisfactory in its results to the lovers of constitutional liberty throughout the world. It was not Bismark that has inspired her success, but the intelligence of the people. It was this that taught them the wise moderation which kept them quiet under the unconstitutional action of the Prime Minister. It was not the needle-gun that won the field of Sadow and reduced Austria to the rank of a second-rate

It was the mind that was behind it, drilled and disciplined more in the common schools of Prussia than in the camp, that aimed it and gave it its deadly effect. And this cultivated intelligence is already, without a bloody revolution, compelling a return to constitutional government, and will compel its enlargement. It is a subject of congratulation to all lovers of liberty, civil and religious, that the ruling power of the Teutonic race is to be Protestant and constitutional. It is education that has done this; and when the King of Prussia comes Emperor of Germany, as he is sure to do if he live but a few years, it will be the schoolmaster that will have set the imperial "round and top of sovereignty" upon his brow, rather than the statesman or the soldier.

Mr. Pomeroy's Proposition to Make Na-tional Bank Currency Legal-Tenders. From the Herald.

There are more absurd propositions made in Congress on the subject of the currency and national finances than on any other. This arises in a great measure from the ignorance of members on such matters, but partly from the great influence which the national banks have secured in that body. Among the most objectionable and one of the last measures introduced was that of Mr. Pomeroy, a Senator from Kansas. It is called a bill to equalize the currency of the United States, and provides that all notes of the national banking associations shall be made legal-tenders, to the same extent and for all purposes for which Treasury notes, called legaltenders, are so made. It provides also for the withdrawal of Government legal-tenders from-circulation—the same as the bill of last session. only in a slower manner for the first year—thus looking to the ultimate extinguishment of the present legal-tender currency and the perpetua-

ion of the national bank circulation.

Mr. Pomeroy makes the great mistake of beginning at the wrong end—of putting the cart before the horse. If he had proposed to withdraw the National Bank currency and substitute therefor Government lega-tenders, he would have been acting like a sensible man. We sgree with him that it would be better to have only one kind of currency; but it should be Government legal-tenders, and not the notes of private corporations guaranteed by the Government. Why should the Government give these private companies—these individual capitalists—the benefit of a national circulation worth more than twenty million dollars a year?

What claim have these monopolizing corporations to such an enormous gratuity! Why should the taxpayers of the country be called upon to contribute to the vast profits of these capitalists without any corresponding advantages—without, indeed, any advantages at all! If they want to do a banking business, let them do it on Government legal-tenders.

In this way the people, and not private companies, would get the profits of a national cir-Intion. If Congress would substitute legal-ten-ders for the national bank currency, it would with that amount buy up or cancel the interestbearing bonds now deposited by the national banks, from which these banks draw interest some three hundred millions or more—and thus save twenty millions a year to the Treasury. What more simple? What more natural? Yet our dull legislators do not or will not understand the same of the

The Senator from Kansas assumes that the national bank circulation is as good as the legal-tender for currency. We do not think so, nor do the people of this country think so; for in a great crisis the security given by the banks for their circulation might not realize enough to redeem their notes. The loss would fall upon the people, either directly or indirectly, through the Government having to redeem them, while everybody knows the Government is always good for its notes. The Bank of England, all through its existence, has paid largely to the British Government for the privilege of its circulation, and yet we make a free gift of such a valuable privilege in this country to private

associations,
We do not believe that such a state of things can continue to exist; and as to the proposition to make the circulation of the national banks legal-tenders, it is simply absurd and dangerous. We hope some statesman may be found in Congress who will mature a bill of a comprehensive character, which may be accepted, to give us a permanent Government legal tender currency, and no other. That is the way to put an end to all such tinkering schemes as this of Mr.

Mr. Seward's Diplomacy. From the Tribune.

Mr. Seward's friends assert that the recent batch of Mexican rumors were set on foot by personal hostility to Mr. Seward. They do not seem to comprehend the fact, that whatever credence might be given them arose from the want of principle, consistency, and truth which have been exhibited in the diplomacy of the Secretary and his subordinates. Those unhappy characteristics, displayed again and again throughout the voluminous correspondence of the Department, have impaired, if they have not utterly destroyed, the confidence of the people in this branch of the Jovernment, and they are consequently lett in painful doubt whether the extravagant ramors in relation to speculative jobs about to be accomplished by our national diplomacy may not have at least some basis of truth. It became known that the return of the French troops from Mexic) had been ordered by the Emperor, not in conse-quence of any manly and decisive protest by our Minister at Parls, speaking the manimo sentiment of the American people against the bustard empire of Maximilian, but for the reason that Mr. Bigelow had voluntarily tendered to M. Drouyn de Lbuys our recognition of Maximilian as a bribe for the departure of the French orces. No tale could therea ter be invented halt so incredible, or involving a larger sacrifice of the national dignity, a more wanton insult to the American people, or a more disgraceful cringing to a foreign power, under circumstances

of premeditated wrong and menace. The shuffling policy of the State Department in the whole business is thus far without explanation. Why did Mr. Seward attempt to ward off the just suspicions and aliay the patriotic fear of Mr. Corwin, our Minister to Mexico, by assuring him that the scheme of an Emptre and an Austrian Prince was abandoned, at the very moment when it was progressing rapidly to completion? Why did he make so marked a difference in extending custom house facilities to the agents of France for the shipment of material of war-facilities which were denied to Mexico in a manner that called forth the indispant protest of Senor Romero? the Senate and the House had declared their invincible repugnance to the Empire of Maximilian, and their determination to recognize only the Republic of Mexico, did Mr. Seward's agent in Paris voluntarily tender a recognition of Maximilian? Why, more recently, did the Secretary himself, after pledging the Govern-ment to the strictest neutrality in the affairs of Mexico, violate that pledge by ordering or ap-proving the arrest and imprisonment of Senor Ortega? These are questions which have been repeatedly asked, and to which the country receives no reply, and this is one of the occasions when we are disposed to regret that our Minis-ters have not seats in Congress, where they

might be held to a just responsibility.

One principle that governs Mr. Seward's oreign policy we have desintely ascertained, which is that our foreign policy is made entirely subservient to the partisan and personal views the Secretary in reference to politics home. This was memorably shown in his surances to Europe, at the beginning of the Rebeilion, that slavery had nothing to do with the war, and in his subsequent admission that this assurance was absolutely untrue, and that be had pursued this Machiavellian and most fatal line of policy—it was met, as the world knows, by a recognition of the Rebels as belligerents, and by their wholesale piracies on the ocean-simply because he hoped to conquer the Rebels by conciliation, and was there ore unwilling to expose their weakness in regard to

Mr. Seward's present position towards the Rebel States, towards Congress, and the Republican party, is well defined; and possibly his utterances during the Presidential tour (when he did his utmost to betray the great party of the Republic to whom he owed his elevation, and when, with his usual success, he predicted its downfall in his native State by a majority of 40,000) may assist us in understanding his crooked policy towards Mexico. He represented the adoption of the Constitutional amendments by the Southern States as "tumbling them in the durt" and "cating the leck." He the President as having by his advice given pledges to those States for their return, declared that, though beaven and and declared that, though beaven and earth night pass away, those pledges must be fulfilled; and then he declared—incredible as it may seem—"the people want a war with Spain and a war with Brazil," and he urged the immediate restoration of the South on the ground that he could not conquer all the rectar with that he could not conquer all the nation with one lame leg. Despite the assurance of Mr. Seward, "the people" do not want a war; and however much the Democrats, the Rebels, and Seward may want a war, Congress should see to it that they are disappointed in their anticipation that they can dejeat the Constitutional amendment and stay the restoration of our national peace by any turther complication with the Mexican question.

The South and a National Convention.

From the Times. The project of a National Convention, started by Governor Perry, of South Carolina, seems to find a good deal of favor in the Southera States. It is supposed that such a Convention could agree upon some plan of reconstruction more acceptable to the nation than any yet submitted. We think this not unlikely; but the project encounters a preliminary objection not easily surmounted. It admits the South into the national councils—gives them a voice in the decision of this question; and that is precisely what the dominant party does not intend they

shall have. The North insists that the South forfeites its right to a voice in the legislation and government of the Union by its rebellion, and that it shall not resume the exercise of that right except at the will and on the terms of the authorized the state of the succession. rity against which they rebelled, and which sup-pressed their rebellion. It does not intend tuat they shall be consulted upon those terms, or that they shall have any voice or vote in de-clding what they shall be. We are not justifying this position, but only stating it. It is

unquestionably the ground taken by the North. It is the ground taken by Congress at the last session, ratified and realizance by the people in the late election, and held still more tenaciously by Congress at this session than it was

A National Convention, in which the South should be represented, would thwart this deter-mination. It would be admitting the Southern States to aid in fixing the terms on which they are to be admitted. This would be surrendering the whole case at once. If the Southern States may be represented in a convention to discuss amendment to the Constitution, there s no reason for relusing them admission to congress. The convention is the higner body of the two. Its functions are superior, its responsibilities greater, its bearing upon the permanent, fundamental, essential nature and charac er of the Government far more import-It is very evident, therefore, that so long as the dominant party excludes the Southern States from Congress it is certain also to exclude them from any convention that may held to discuss and propose amendments to the Constitution. Governor Perry, therefore, has not simplified the question in the least by his

It is perfectly natural that the South should protest against the purpose of the party in power, and struggle to evade it. It needs and seeks a share in making the laws which it is required to obey. It seeks admission to Congress, to the electoral college, to constitutional onventions, to all councils of the Government, and it naturally and properly uses all the means it can devise to secure it. But it seems to us perfectly certain that it struggles in vain. The North asserts the right and the determination to prescribe terms of admission, and to enforce those terms; and it has the power to do so. Nor can we discover the slightest reason for disbelieving or thinking that this determination can be changed or its enforcement waived. We know something of the temper of Congress, and it seems to us to indicate the most resolute and inflexible purpose not to admit the South to representation until it shall accept the conditions which Corpress has prescribed.

Now the South can reject those conditions; it must decide or itself whether it will do so or Its fate, in this particular, is now, as it has been heretotore, in its own hands. If any Southern State shall accept and ratify the Con-stitutional Amendment, that State will be ad-mitted to representation, through loyal representatives and in accordance with law, in the hails of Congress. They have two months more in which to decide. The Amendment will fall with the Congress which proposed it on the 4th of March next. After that time the whole question will be open anew. If the South thinks it can get better terms, or can secure admission without terms, from the next Congress, very well. In that case it may be acting wisely in taking the chances. But our own conviction is very clear that it is making a most serious mis-take. Certainly the device of a Constitutional National Convention is one from which it can recure no sid.

Can the Supreme Court be "Packed?"

From the World. A leading radical organ, alarmed by the late decision of the Supreme Court, adjudging the military tribunals which domineered over our liberties during the war unconstitutional, advises Congress to pack the court, as iniquitous sheriffs sometimes pack juries. The journal in question has sharpness enough to see that all the radical legislation will go for nought, unless the Supreme Court can be demoralized or circumvented "Surely," it exclaims, "there is reason for Congress to look well to this Court, before it proceeds another step in reconstruction." This is a just and sagacious observation; for nothing can be more incontrovertible than that all the radical schemes will be defeated if an independent tribunal of last resort remains to declare unconstitutional laws null and void. The method which the rad cal organ proposes for packing the Supreme Court with party parasites, is thus

"But still the Constitution, as its framers had torescen this difficulty, provides the remedy. There shall be one supreme court, and such other inferior courts as Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Constitution establishes the Supreme Court, and provides that its Judges shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall hold their offices during good behavior; but the number of these judges is left to the discretion of Congress. Thus, by increasing or diminishing the number of the udges, the Court may be reconstructed in conformity with the supreme decisions of the war. In any event, it may be interred that a court largely composed of judges handed down from Polk, Pierce, and Buchanan, and having little or nothing to do with the war, and still living in the atmosphere of the Dred Scott decision, is not adapted to meet the issues decided by the war, not the demands of the great revolution under which the sovereign people of the United States regard that Dred Scott decision as a mark of empiric shame and disgrace. As the Court now stands, away belind the war, we hold that there is good reason to fear that its judgments yet to come in regard to the doings of Congress, during and since the war, including the abolition of slavery and the creation of our present national debt, it not provided for in season, may result in a new chapter of troubles and disasters to the country.'

The desperate advice here given is of some value as a recognition of the difficulty, but futile as a means of extrication. The expedient recommended will be equally vain whether Congress attempts to reduce or to increase the number of judges. As to reduction, how can it be so managed as to weed out the conservative and retain the radical judges? The truth is, none of the existing judges can be legislated out of office at all. By the Constitution, they hold during good behavior, the impossibility of dis-placing incm being the guarantee of their independence. An act was passed at the last session reducing the number of associate justices from ten to six; but the method was, by directing fill vacancies until the prescribed diminution is accomplished. This is the only way the Court can be reduced without a plain violation of the

As to an increase, with what face could Conaress, after declaring, by the act of last winter, that the number of judges is at present too large, repeal that set from barefaced partisan motives, and direct the appointment of more? But we should be loth to build any hopes on so trail a toundation as the supposed sense of shame, or regard for consistency, of the present Congress. That body can, it it pleases, pass an enlarging the court, but it cannot take from the President his power to appoint the judges If the Senate should reject all his appointments the court would remain the same as now, and all the radical schemes be trustrated; but it it should confirm them, the court would be en-larged by the addition of new judges as independent and faithful as those forming us present ajority. With this insurmountable obstacle in prospect, Congress will not incur the gratuitous disgrace of attempting to pack the Supreme

-A hunting party of distinguished foreigners arrived at Wyandotte, Kanssa, on the 10th inst., from the Plairs. Among them were Prince Nicholas Ouroussoff of Russia, Count Montaigne of France, F. H. Evans of England, and R. Digby of Ireland. The officers of the frontier posts were instructed to furnish everything within their means which the hunting party might need to promote their comfort and success. They represent their buffalo hunt as having been a very pleasant and successful one, Prince Nicholas having killed thirty buffalo himself, and the whole party about one hun-dred and fifty of our noble American bison.

—The Norwich (Ct.) Bulletin says that Edwin Booth, the tragedian, has purchased of William Stuar, proprietor of Winter Garden, New York, a few acres of land below the Pequot House, adjourning Mr. Stuart's residence. Mr. Booth will erect a handsome house on the land during the winter, and make the place his summer HOLIDAY GOODS.

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LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR THE CITY In the order of Philadelphia.

Es ate of Jables Harillfon, diceased.

The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit, settle, and adjust the thirty sixth account of Thomas Cabbard wallader for Jables executor and Trastee of the last will and testament of Jables hamiliton, deceased, arising from that pertion of the estate belonging to schedule B, samexed to the indenture of partition in said estate, dated January 25, 1849 recorded in the office for recording deeds, etc. in Fhilade phia, in Deed Book G W C, No. 1, page 487 etc., and to report distribution of the balance in the hands of the accountant, will meet the parties interested for the purposes of his appointment, on MONDAY, December 24, 1846, at 4 o'clock P. M., at his office, No. 462 Walnut Street, in the city of Philadelphia.

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